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GROUP 1700

PATENT APPLICATION
Q64382

#6/10E
3/18/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tomohisa NISHIKAWA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/853,653

Confirmation No.: 7121

Filed: May 14, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: Adrienne C. Johnstone

For: RUBBER-STEEL CORD COMPOSITE AND
PNEUMATIC TIRE FOR PASSENGER CARS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

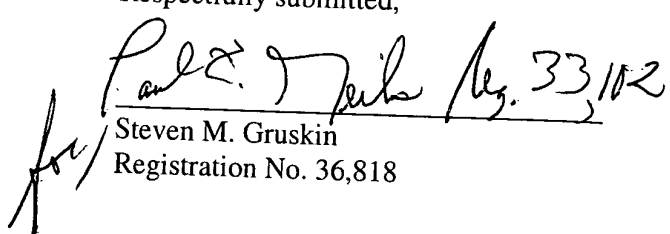
In response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2003, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, the species in which the cord composite is a carcass layer. At least claims 5-11, 13 and 14 are readable on this species. Claim 5 is generic according to the Examiner.

Applicants also elect, without traverse, the species in which the steel cords have a structure of 1 x 5. All of claims 5-11, 13 and 14 read on this species. Claim 7 is generic according to the Examiner.

An examination on the merits of this application in due course is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees due to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: March 13, 2003